

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. (Currently Amended) A text mining system for providing ~~query-based search data for use in a lead generation system accessible by the client via the Internet~~ data identifying prospective customers of a product or service provided by a product/service provider, comprising:

a data acquisition process for extracting text data from ~~Internet web sites, Internet news groups, Internet mailing lists, and corporate text files~~ at least one Internet text source selected from the group of: newsgroups, discussion forums, mailing lists, and web sites;

wherein the text sources are associated with participants of the text sources;

a archive database for storing the extracted text data;

Al a text mining server for ~~formulating receiving~~ and executing ~~query-based~~ searches of the database, ~~and for providing output views representing the results of the searches, each query requesting a search for participants who are prospective customers of the product or service, thereby identifying at least one document containing information identifying a prospective customer who is discussing the product or service;~~

a ~~repository for storing the output views;~~ and

a web server for providing access to the text mining server via a web browser and the Internet, such that the ~~client~~ product/service provider may execute ~~query-based~~ the searches on line via the Internet, and receive a query response containing the information identifying a prospective customer and a link to the document;

wherein the web server is different from the servers for the text data.

2. (Original) The text mining system of Claim 1, wherein the corporate text files are items of digitally recorded correspondence.

3. (Original) The text mining system of Claim 1, wherein the corporate text files are digital voice records.

4. (Original) The text mining system of Claim 1, wherein the data acquisition process is implemented with a web crawler.

5. (Original) The text mining system of Claim 1, further comprising a user profiles database, and wherein the mining server further accesses the user profiles database for use in formulating queries.

6. (Original) The text mining system of Claim 1, wherein the data acquisition process further accesses Internet voice-to-text files.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A text mining method for providing query-based search data for use in a lead generation system accessible by the client via the Internet, comprising the steps of:~~

~~storing the extracted text data in a first database;~~

~~formulating and executing query-based searches of the first database, and for providing output views representing the results of the searches;~~

~~storing the output views in a second database; and~~

~~providing access to the text mining server via a web browser and the Internet, such that the client may execute query-based searches on line via the Internet.~~

A method, performed by an information service provider, of providing data identifying prospective customers of a product or service provided by a product/service provider, comprising the steps of:

identifying source data from at least one Internet text source selected from the group of: newsgroups, discussion forums, mailing lists, and web sites;

storing the source data in an archive database;

receiving a query from the product/service provider, via a web browser, the query requesting a search for prospective customers of the product or service;

accessing the archive database to satisfy the query, thereby identifying at least one document containing information identifying a prospective customer who is discussing the product or service; and

delivering to the product/service provider, via a web browser, a query response to the product/service provider, the query response containing the information identifying a prospective customer, a description of the source text, and a link to the document.

8. (Original) The text mining method of Claim 7, wherein the corporate text files are items of digitally recorded correspondence.

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9. (Original) The text mining method of Claim 7, wherein the corporate text files are digital voice records.

10. (Original) The text mining method of Claim 7, wherein the data acquisition process is implemented with a web crawler.

11. (Original) The text mining method of Claim 7, further comprising the steps of storing user profiles in a user profiles database, and of accessing the user profiles database during the step of formulating queries.

12. (New) The method of Claim 7, further comprising the step of electronically delivering advertising to the prospective customer.

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13. (New) The method of Claim 12, wherein the advertising is a link to a web site.

14. (New) The method of Claim 12, further comprising the step of contacting the prospective customer for permission to send advertising to the customer.

15. (New) The method of Claim 12, further comprising the step of performing a reverse lookup for additional information about the prospective customer and wherein the delivering step further includes delivering the additional information.

AM 16. (New) The method of Claim 1, further comprising a reverse lookup process for performing a reverse lookup, via the Internet, for contact information associated with the potential customer, and wherein the web server further provides the contact information with the query response.

17. (New) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving from the product/service provider, via a web browser, an identification of one or more of the Internet text sources to be searched by the product/service provider.
